

Introduction

Sound solid waste management presents a number of unique challenges in small communities and/or rural areas. Among these challenges are climate conditions, low population density, limited financial resources, and a lack of ready alternatives. In the past, solid waste was often allowed to accumulate wherever it was convenient to leave it, with little or no regulation or consideration for the protection of human health and the environment. This practice is known as roadside dumping or midnight dumping and resulted in deposits of scattered waste on tribal property.

The information contained in this manual has been compiled by the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 to assist those tribes wishing to upgrade their solid waste management practices by removing waste from these roadside dumps for disposal in regulated landfills. Section 1 of the document provides technical advice for solid waste cleanup activities and Appendix I provides a sample solid waste cleanup and removal plan. This manual is offered to Indian tribes to assist them with decision making and waste removal implementation. It is intended to provide technical advice and assistance. This technical advice is not applicable to areas formerly or currently owned and operated as waste disposal sites; nor is it applicable to disposal sites composed of hazardous waste.

Section 4005 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, commonly referred to as RCRA Subtitle D, contains requirements for the disposal of solid waste in specific, regulated facilities known as Municipal Solid Waste Landfills, or "MSWLFs." These requirements are codified in 40 CFR Part 258. This document is not intended to address the legal responsibilities of owners or operators of facilities regulated under EPA regulatory programs. If you have questions regarding the legal requirements affecting solid waste facilities, please contact your USEPA Regional office at the number listed in Attachment VI: Contact Information.

This document is intended solely for technical advice. It is not intended and cannot be relied upon to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States of America. EPA reserves the right to change this document at any time without public notice.